Accountability to your child...

In Indiana, accountability for all students begins with ISTEP+. This comprehensive testing system produces data that hold schools, school corporations, and the state of Indiana accountable for improved performance as specified in No Child Left Behind.

To enhance this measure of group achievement, the Indiana assessment system includes an alternate assessment component, Indiana Standards Tool for Alternate Reporting (ISTAR). Students who perform significantly below grade-level may have personal learning goals that cannot be adequately measured with a grade-level standardized test. ISTAR is the measure of accountability for the progress of these students within Indiana's assessment system.

ISTAR is aligned to the Indiana Academic Core Standards in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. For students participating in a functional curriculum, the areas of physical, personal care, domestic care, community access, and the employability areas of responsibility, interpersonal, and problem solving skills are available to assess. ISTAR is provided

to schools

by the Indiana

Department of Education



For more information log on to:

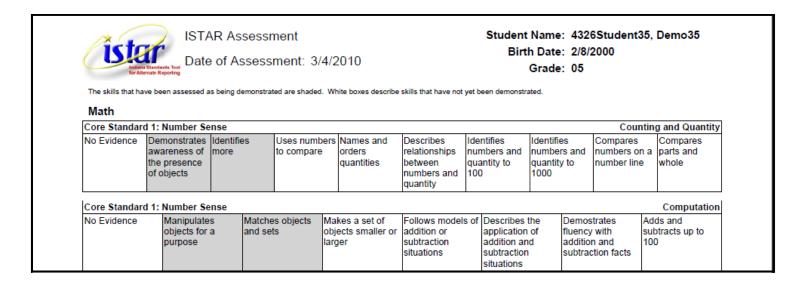
www.ican.doe.state.in.us

or contact Karen Stein

kstein@doe.in.gov

Accounting for progress ...One child at a time

www.ican.doe.state.in.us



How is ISTAR rated?

Teachers rate each box in a performance row that your child has demonstrated mastery in each content area of Math, English/Language Arts and, if applicable, Science or Social Studies. Teachers base these ratings on evidence such as observations, work samples, and portfolios.

Functional and Employability areas are also available to assess as well as an optional second level assessment which includes rubric items that correspond with the next level of the performance thread.

Interpreting an ISTAR Report

Each row includes boxes of progressive skills. Shaded boxes represent the skills which have been assessed as being demonstrated. White boxes describe the skills that have not been demonstrated yet. Use this summary report to discuss your child's current skills, what skills are emerging, and what activities can support new learning.

Identifying the abilities of your child is an important step in designing appropriate learning experiences that are responsive to the specific, individual needs of your child.

Accounting for Progress...

Additional reports are available which provide more detail in each area and show progress from one year to the next.